Soccer in America — Special Report page 7.

PRESTO

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CZECH TREMORS SPREAD TO NSW

After its shock debut in Canberra, the tough, remorseless Czech armada has moved into NSW for two more encounters this week.

—By Andrew Dettre—

On Wednesday, in Newcastle, they will face Northern NSW while on Sunday in Sydney, they will meet the Socceroos for the second time.

Barring a welcome Act of God, neither match can hold out too much promise for the local teams.

As every sensible person had anticipated, Czechoslovakia proved to be far too skilled, experienced, homogeneous and fit for our hastily assembled Socceroos.

Even some last-minute panic measures didn't help — maybe even made things worse: Jim Tansey and Ivo Prskalo walked into the Australian team only days after their return from European holidays.

Regardless of their value to the team and their performance level in Canberra, this move seemed to negate all the long-embraced principles of Rudi Gutendorf about methodically preparing a team for a vital match.

So it's one down — and probably more to go.

Northern NSW is really Newcastle United in thin disguise and their only hope rests in the unity of their team.

Former England international Paul Reaney will make his debut for NNSW — and he couldn't have asked for a more testing baptism than facing the elusive Masny or Nehoda.

But the match which has really captured the imagination will be Sunday's tussle in Sydney where the Socceroos can have a second bite at the Czech cherry.

The taste, alas, may not be much sweeter than it was in Canberra.

If the Socceroos are likely to give an improved account of themselves because of their extra training, so are the Czechs, having fully acclimatised by Sunday.

The Venglos-boys moved around only in second gear last week; they should shift into third, even fourth in Sydney — and that will more than make up for any probable improvement in the fitness of the Socceroos.

All talk about Australia "attacking" the Czechs is naive and misleading: in every soccer match without exception the superior team dictates terms.

Neither wishful thinking nor cheap bravado can alter this fundamental principle of soccer.

Whatever the outcome of the two clashes, one thing is sure: the fans of Newcastle and Sydney will have a rare soccer delicacy in store for them, in watching one of the best national teams in the world, Czechoslovakia.

Our aim — especially in the long term — should be to learn from them and then put that knowledge to practical use later against teams which will be our hurdles on the way to Spain in 1982.

That must be our realistic ambition, not the almost impossible task of matching one of the giants of world soccer.

Czechoslovak stars Kozak, Gajdusek and Barmos.

LIKELY TEAMS

AUSTRALIA

Woodhouse
Perry
Henderson
Prskalo
Tansey
Rooney
J. Nyskohus
Jankovics
O'Connor
Krncevic
Cumming

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Hruska
Barmos
Ondrus
Vojacek
Goegh
Kazak
Stambachr
Panenka
Masny
Gajdusek
Nehoda

Support the company that supports soccer

Ampol: Soccer's staunch ally

Four matches on Wednesday night and another four on Friday night herald the start of the 1980 Ampol Cup in Sydney.

The longest surviving regular event on the NSW soccer calendar — having started in 1957 — the Cup is a vital part of the season, bringing teams close to their peak before the championship proper.

And all this is made possible by one of the largest Australian-owned companies, Ampol Petroleum.

One tends to take their sponsorship for granted — but one shouldn't.

In the ever growing helter-skelter race for sponsors, where companies with their fundings come and go, Ampol have been steadfast over the years.

Much of the credit is due to one man: Ampol executive Merv Paine, possibly the longest active supporter of soccer.

Without Ampol's strong backing, Sydney soccer would be much the poorer not just in terms of money but also in quality.

• **Turn to page 3 for full Ampol Cup preview and list of all past winners.**

2 TO 6

Conducted by Val Hokin and Emmanuel Kanna

***Hurstville Zagreb** (3rd div.) had a reasonably successful result in the end-of-season tournament, the Croatia Cup, which was held in Perth. The side finished third in the 14-team competition, losing in the semifinals to Sydney Croatia by 2-0. Sydney Croatia went on to win the Cup for the third time running.*

□ □ □

***Chullora** (5th div.) have re-appointed Eddie Stoddard as coach for the 1980 season. The committee remains the same for '80 with Secretary being J. Hunt and B. Stratton as President. Training is expected to commence early February at Lockwood Park, Waterloo Road, Chullora.*

□ □ □

***Dee Why** (2nd div.). The club saw several changes in committee positions at their recent AGM. Matt Pecar is Secretary with Warren Squires taking up the position of President. The committee have appointed Bill Kerklaan from Holland as coach for the 1980 season. Bill Kerklaan played in South Africa in the mid 60s and since has coached and played in Melbourne and in '78 coached North Sydney Inter. Training has commenced at Dee Why Oval on Tuesdays and Thursdays.*

□ □ □

***Lethbridge Rangers** (2nd div.) The Club's new committee, Jack Wilson, B. Lomas and Peter Brady (the club's first Australian committee member) have a very positive view, expecting big things for 1980. They have appointed Harry Noon as the senior federation coach, ex-Wolves player with over 300 games for Notts County, staff coach with NSW Coaches Federation and '79 coach with Artarmon. Trevor Cooke has been appointed Youth Federation coach and during a recent seven-week trip home, Trevor trained with his old club Oldham Athletics under Andy Lockhad, ex-Scottish International. He has also brought back several new coaching and training ideas. The local Council has modernised the Jersey Road Park amenities block including a separate referees' dressing room.*

□ □ □

***Maccabi** (5th div.) have appointed the club's first grade coach, Kaz Kulak, ex-Arncliffe Scots and Sydney Olympic and second grade coach will be Ray Lodge an ex-first grade player. The club's committee remains virtually the same for 1980 and they will again have the Sydney Cricket Ground No. 2 for home matches and training during the season. Training will commence on Monday January 28 at Christenden Park. The first graders represented Maccabi NSW in the Carnival Cup held in Perth late last year taking the honours by defeating Victoria 2-0 and Western Australia 3-0. The club expects to increase their junior teams to 10, an increase of four, and will again in 1980 field two teams in the Sydney Amateur Soccer League.*

□ □ □

***Winston Hills** (5th div.) gaining promotion, have re-appointed Noel Telfer as club coach for 1980 and also the very capable manager in Max Baker. The club has arranged for masseur, Keith Rule, ex-Granville player, to attend to players on match days and at training. This should prove beneficial giving the coach first hand reports on injuries and treatment.*

Are you interested in a friendly pre-season trial game? This column offers its services in arranging such games for all divisions. Contact Emmanuel Kanna 662-0111 ext.432 or 50-7380.

NEXT WEEK:

South African soccer is booming, with attendances often reaching 30,000 — but the racial tensions are still there and could wreck the game as much as they could wreck the country.

***Well known soccer writer Alan Fouche, now is Johannesburg, writes a brilliant piece on the soccer life of his former beloved country — don't miss it in next week's** SOCCER WORLD.*

Also in the same issue we continue Andrew Dettre's exploration of soccer in the USA, publish a full report and evaluation of this week's matches with Czechoslovakia and bring further up-to-date stories on the PSL and State League clubs, the Ampol Cup plus our unique full page of overseas news.

State League Preview

It has been a relatively quiet off season for Parramatta.

One big change however, was the retirement of club secretary Bert Packer, who after many years with the club gave the game away through bad health.

The new man in the spotlight is Peter Coleman, well known for his efforts with the New South Wales Federation as promotions man.

Enthusiastic coach Bob Wall is still with the club, but the team has lost three of its most outstanding characters.

Henry Selfridge has decided not to play again, but will stay with the club as physical conditioner of the team, while both Alistair Link and Tom Morrow have moved on to greener pastures.

One of the club's outstanding younsters Peter Roden is still being groomed by Bob Wall, and he will probably be initiated into the first team this year.

On the playing field front, Garside Park has received some intensive treatment during the break.

The notorious middle patch which becomes uneven and bare as the season wears on, has been re-topsoiled and levelled.

"We have organised a few working bees at the ground as well, and given the seats in the grand stand a few coats of paint," said Peter.

"Some of the seats look as if they haven't been touched since 1954, but they certainly look 100 percent better now.

"It looks likely that Melita will be using the ground as well, and some of their club officials have mentioned the idea of combining efforts to improve the ground.

"I'm certainly for that, because all it really takes is a little bit of elbow grease to make the ground more pleasant for everyone to use," he said.

"The ground won't be ready for a while, but the groundsmen say it may be possible to play the Cup semifinals at the ground if we need it," he added.

WOLLONGONG

We have all been used to teams from the south, but this Wollongong is different in that it has a strong Macedonian flavour in the club.

Club publicity officer George Jonovski says the team will be a fairly mixed crew.

"We have several boys of Macedonian background, but there are also those with other European, South American and Australian backgrounds," he said.

"Our club is completely separate from the Wollongong City which applied to the PSL.

"That club exists in name only, with no players, no management and no facilities," George said.

"We are a new club, being only three years old, but in that time we feel we have grown rapidly.

"From our first season in second division we were promoted to the premier league and then last year we missed promotion to the State League from the First Division by a whisker," he said.

"The club's ultimate aim is to go for PSL, and we have already embarked on a program to build up the financial assets.

"We are hoping to build a club house near our ground at Berkeley Sports Centre to provide our soccer club with strong, sound backing."

Wollongong will be playing for the first time in the Ampol Cup, and for the task they have appointed a new coach in the well-known figure of Mike Johnson.

Mike is the manager-coach of the club and is in the process of making a few signings for the club.

The first team squad has been in training almost since the end of last season, with training runs being held throughout the holiday season.

They are determined to make a big impact on the Ampol Cup, and make sure that this year there is no faltering in their run to the State League.

P.S. Wollongong play in a red strip with yellow stripes on their sleeves — a nice change from the multitude of blue clad teams clogging our fields.

At long last, the Eagle has landed

— By Charles Spiteri —

Former Australian international Atti Abonyi, fresh from two successive State League championship wins with Croatia, has taken over the high flying Melita Eagles this season.

In these past two years, Abonyi has been player-coach with Croatia but with Melita he will be only coaching as he is still contracted as a player to Croatia with an $8,000 fee on his head.

Abonyi was appointed towards the end of November last year and immediately started training the Eagles squad. Straight after the Christmas break he started full training.

After 20 years of ups and downs in Sydney soccer, Melita enters the new decade of the 80s with a spanking new, permanent home.

Almost 12 months of negotiations with Parramatta City Council and the State government have resulted in the club acquiring a lease of Everley Park in the South Granville - Chester Hill district.

The ground which is fully fenced is located on a 14-acre site in the centre and within reach of Melita's strong support in the Western Suburbs.

The lush-green, cyclone-fenced pitch has been top-soiled in the off-season and floodlight has been installed which will allow night matches to be played.

"Hills" have been formed on all sides where supporters could see the playing field sitting down.

The lease conditions have delayed the project for a couple of months but once this is settled, the club has drawn up plans for a two-storey amenities block which is expected to be built within eight weeks after the go ahead.

Meantime, Melita is expected to play the first leg of the competition at Garside Park until such time as the "Everley Park" ground is completed.

However, the Eagles are already using modern training facilities available next to the new ground.

Already, the Eagles attract around 200 people watching them train on the new site which was impossible with previous arrangements.

While club officials have succeeded to improve conditions for players and supporters alike, they are now going through the annual haggling duel with the playing staff.

Abonyi as coach and sole selector has the role to deal with the players new and old for payments during the season.

On the field he will be assisted by second grade coach Paul Falzon.

So far, Melita has lost the services of midfielder Colin McAusland to Leichhardt and Billy Griffiths (who was on loan from APIA last year) to St.George.

Negotiations are also going on with St.George for the transfer of midfielder Richard Yamine.

The club is asking a $10,000 transfer fee for left fullback and NSW squad member Bobby McPherson who is at present overseas.

Others, yet to return from their overseas holidays, are Brian Parker and Alan Gibson.

But the tide of the migration is by no means one way as the club is besieged by players who want to fill any empty spots in the first grade side.

The club has already signed Albert Gatt, a Maltese first division player who played regularly for top Maltese clubs Floriana and Mosta Football clubs.

It is also awaiting Abonyi's go ahead to sign two well known midfielders (already training with the squad) to offset any loss to other clubs.

With the foundation laid down at Everley Park, Melita looks to the 80s with great confidence as it now has the facilities, players and the support to have a crack at the Philips League.

SOCCER WORLD

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AMPOL

AMPOL CUP 1980

Eight games start series this week

— By Paul James —

Sydney soccer's traditional apperitif before the main course of the championship, the Ampol Cup, gets underway this week with round one matches split over January 30 and February 1.

The five Sydney PSL clubs are not taking part in this year's Cup, for reasons better known to themselves, and in their stead Wollongong and Yugal from the First Division will make up the numbers.

All preliminary round matches will be played at either the St.George Stadium or Seymour Shaw Park, which means fans on the Northside of the harbour will be up for some long trips to see their teams in action.

The four groups are very evenly balanced, and with only three matches to play, any team could sneak through into the quarter-finals.

No single match from the first round stands out as a 'must' for the non-committed fan, though several will provide interesting encounters.

The Croatia clash with Ku-ring-gai on Wednesday sees last year's champions take on the team which did considerably better than anyone had expected.

This year the men from the North Shore are aiming even higher and after spending a week in training camp they can be expected to be fitter than most teams.

Croatia are basically unchanged from last season, except for the loss of Abonyi as player-coach.

They will definitely maintain their high calibre of soccer, and with the added incentive this year of finally having their own home ground, they should once again be among the top four.

On the same night, but at a different ground, Melita play Arncliffe in what could be an important litmus test for both teams' hopes this year.

Arncliffe went into the transfer market in a big way during the off season, adding Alan Ainslie and Paul Luckett from Sydney Olympic, Steve Montgomery from Auburn and John Lee from Bankstown.

They will be out to prove the spending was worthwhile, and Melita will be up for a tough battle in this match.

Melita, desperate to forget the upheaval midway through last season which eventually saw them miss out on the top four, are hoping for good results in the Ampol Cup.

However, the main expectations of the club are that Abonyi can use the Ampol Cup to weld a premiership winning team together for their plans of entering the PSL in 1981 or later.

North Sydney, the third team from the north side of the harbour in the State League, will play Avala on Wednesday at the St.George Stadium.

Avala, a team with their ups and downs, will be keen once again to do well in the competition which has favoured them.

North Sydney, out to show their promotion was worthwhile, can be expected to go flat out from the start to prove their worth and Avala should be wary.

The Sydney Olympic-Manly clash at Seymour Shaw will be the first realisation for the former PSL team that they have come back to earth.

Their team, now minus several established stars such as Raskopoulos and Ainslie, will have to show plenty of enthusiasm if they want to retain their fans of old.

Manly, on the verge of a 'new decade' are moving slowly on in their aim to establish the club as the focus for soccer in the Warringah district.

Schumann, Sutherland.

With coaching director Richard Alagich pulling the strings in the background, the club officials are confident 1980 will see Manly progress further up the table, and the Ampol Cup could be a forerunner of the things to come.

Relegated Yugal, the team which hung on grimly in State League for so many years after such a noble past, plays Bankstown, who have also had their fair share of relegation traumas.

However, under new president Gerry Mestrum, the club hopes to face a bright future.

Dark horses Wollongong, mooted as possible PSL candidates meet Sydney's other Greek backed club Marrickville in the early match at Seymour Shaw on Friday.

With a strong, loyal Macedonian based support they may be an asset for the Ampol Cup, if only for their crowds.

However, on the playing side one feels they are not yet strong enough to make a mark in the State League, though this eventually is their aim.

The final match of the Round One agenda is the Sutherland-Parramatta clash at Seymour Shaw.

Sutherland, amazingly still the same side despite a wealth of potential PSL talent, must be obvious joint favourites for the Cup after their past performances in all competitions.

Parramatta, however, will be tough first hurdle.

Last year the Magpies picked up something of a "giant killer" tag, with the scalps of Melita and Croatia under their belt.

The traditional Granville fighting spirit remains, despite the name change and as most club supporters would point out, a renewed pride in the club has been born from the new image.

Alex Kovacic, Croatia.

NSW FEDERATION OFFICIAL PROGRAM

FEDERATION OF SOCCER CLUBS N·S·W

AMPOL

AMPOL CUP THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30:

Nth.Syd. v Avala	St.George Stadium	7.15pm
Melita v Arncliffe	St.George Stadium	9.00pm
Manly v Olympic	Seymour Shaw	7.15pm
Croatia v Ku-ring-gai	Seymour Shaw	9.00pm

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1:

Yugal v Bankstown	St.George Stadium	7.15pm
Auburn v Monaro	St.George Stadium	9.00pm
W'gong v Cant.-M'ville	Seymour Shaw	7.15pm
Sutherland v P'matta	Seymour Shaw	9.00pm

NEXT WEEK

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6:

Parramatta v Olympic	St.George Stadium	7.15pm
Avala v Melita	St.George Stadium	9.00pm
Nth.Syd. v Arncliffe	Seymour Shaw	7.15pm
Yugal v Auburn	Seymour Shaw	9.00pm

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8:

Sutherland v Manly	St.George Stadium	7.15pm
Croatia v Wollongong	St.George Stadium	9.00pm
K'gai v Cant.-M'ville	Seymour Shaw	7.15pm
Bankstown v Monaro	Seymour Shaw	9.00pm

Youth squad now in camp

The ASF this week announced details for Stage II of the Coca-Cola sponsored Youth Development Program in preparation for the FIFA World Youth Championship for the Coca-Cola Cup next year.

"We not only have to select and prepare a worthy national side, but we have to make provision to accommodate the teams of 15 other nations who will be here in October of next year", Sir Arthur George said.

Forty youths from most parts of Australia entered the Sydney training camp this week.

Before Saturday the squad will be reduced to 25 from which two sides will be chosen to play a final selection trial as a curtain-raiser to the Australia v Czechoslovakia game at Sydney Sports Ground on Sunday.

From that game, national coach Rudi Gutendorf will select the 17 players who will comprise the final squad.

They will undergo an intensive training campaign which will switch to a camp in Melburne starting February 6 to prepare for a match against the Victorian State youth squad, again as a curtain-raiser to the Australia v Czechoslovakia game at Olympic Park on February 9.

Sir Arthur stated that the ambitious program highlighted the combined efforts of Coca-Cola Bottlers throughout Australia to ensure that the Australian team receives the best possible preparation.

ALL AMPOL WINNERS

	WINNER	RUNNER-UP	SCORE
1957	Hakoah	Lane Cove	5-1
1958	Canterbury	Hakoah	4-3
1959	Prague	Auburn	7-0
1960	Budapest	APIA	5-2
1961	Prague	Hakoah	6-3
1962	Prague	Canterbury	3-2
1963	Yugal	Auburn	5-3
1964	Prague	APIA	2-1
1965	Prague	Yugal	6-2
1966	APIA	Hakoah	1-0
1967	St.George	Hakoah	2-0
1968	Hakoah	St.George	1-0
1969	Prague	Pan Hellenic	3-2
1970	APIA	South Coast	2-0
1971	West. Suburbs	Marconi	4-2
1972	St.George	Prague	2-0
1973	Hakoah	St.George	4-2
1974	APIA	Auburn	9-1
1975	St.George	Marconi	3-2
1976	West.Suburbs	Hakoah	2-1
1977	Avala	Sutherland	1-0
1978	Sutherland	Melita	2-0
1979	Sydney City	Melita	3-1

Explanations for new arrivals, new readers or people with short memories:

Hakoah is now Sydney City; Budapest is now St.George; APIA is now Leichhardt; Canterbury is now (more or less) Marrickville Olympic; Pan Hellenic is now Olympic.

Prague and South Coast no longer exist; Western Suburbs is out of senior soccer.

There are no other changes.....

In 1977 and 1978 — as again this year — Sydney's Philips League clubs did not participate.

Crowded area

Many feel the PSL have erred in placing a fifth Sydney based club in the national competition for varying reasons; quality may be sacrificed for quantity.

A similar situation seems to appear in the lower amateur division of the NSW Federation with 6 clubs in 6th division being within only 9 km radius of each other: Moorebank, Liverpool City, Liverpool Utd., Green Valley, Mt.Pritchard and Liverpool Rangers.

Presumably the status of a Federation club, whatever division, is quality on the field, for isn't that where promotion is determined and what spectators want?

For 6th division, how can this quality come from such a small area, especially when within a 15 km radius, there are also three 5th division, three 4th division and three 3rd division clubs?

These outer western area clubs do have two possible player sources: 1. Senior players from the outer city suburbs have moved west; 2. A multitude of youngsters who, hopefully, will fill the senior ranks in years to come.

But most clubs, including those mentioned, have three major problems: 1. Strength off the field (administration - dedicated, reliable and capable persons); 2. Strength on the field; 3. Strength within the coaching ranks, both junior and senior.

If the aim is to tap the vast youth reservoir of the area, has the previous 10 years or so seen quality junior coaches at work?

It is known that this is basically not so.

It has only been in recent times that some involved fathers have seen the value in coaching courses.

Looking at the statistics put out by the ASF for '79 the Southern District Association encompassed 49 clubs with 426 teams, 48 of them senior but none under 18 or 17 and only 12 under 16 and 18 under 15 sides and 76 under 7/6 teams.

—V. Hokin

SOCCER INJURIES

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PHILIPS LEAGUE ROUND-UP

OLYMPIC SET TO SUE ASF

Sydney Olympic's legal challenge against their relegation from the PSL is likely to end in litigation against the ASF.

Olympic president John Constantine said this week that a brief had been prepared for a barrister.

"We intend to contest the matter because of the many irregularities surrounding the decision," he said.

"We also contend that our club had been denied natural justice.

"It's not the decision that we fight but the method used to reach it."

John Constantine said he was disgusted with the PSL's 'selective' relegation and promotion.

"Quite frankly, it stinks," he said.

"God only knows whom they'll relegate and promote at the end of 1981 and on what principles."

Meanwhile, Greek fans in Sydney are planning to boycott all 1980 international promotions.

This is in response to some fiery editorials in various Greek-language newspapers, accusing the ASF of bias.

Newly appointed manager-coach Jim Adam is trying to build a team strong enough to play a leading role in the NSW State League.

He has lost Peter Raskopoulos to Marconi, Paul Luckett and Alan Ainslie to Arncliffe Scots and Dave McIntosh may join St.George for about $7,000.

But Olympic hope to sign three new players within a week or two.

They have also lodged an application with the NSW Federation seeking exemption from the rule which requires a team to field at least six local players.

"Of course, there is no such rule in the PSL and we were simply caught off guard," Constantine said.

"Now we can't just tear up valid contracts with players who are here on temporary visas.

"It's another glaring shortcoming in our soccer system that a team is pushed from one league to another — and overnight faces different regulations about player status.

"We hope to be exempted for a 12-month period though we're doing all we can to build up the local player contingent."

Constantine said he wasn't hoping for a quick return to the PSL.

Gary Meier,Olympic

"All we want to do is field a good team which holds its support.

"With the promotion system in the PSL being so incredibly muddled, there's no guarantee that we can get back at once.

"But I tell you one thing. If we do finish first and another Sydney team is 13th or 14th in the PSL and yet we are not promoted, there will be trouble, with a capital 'T'."

INSURANCE FOR STARS

A unique insurance scheme is being offered to Philips League clubs, safeguarding them against heavy losses of key players.

They can insure their stars worth up to $40,000 or even more against injury which could terminate or shorten their career.

This policy is separate from the normal loss of income policies.

The scheme is being offered to clubs by R.E.Bott Insurance Brokers Pty.Ltd., 61-65 Stead Street, South Melbourne (phone 699-6799).

"Many clubs are reluctant to pay out huge transfer fees because they are scared that these star players costing so much may suffer a permanent injury," the principal, Bob Bott said this week.

"With this new, 'key men' insurance policy, we will protect the clubs against this financial risk."

R.E.Bott, together with Allianz Insurance Company limited, Europe's largest insurer, are also continuing their cover for the Philips League players under a policy worth $10 million.

They also have each Socceroo insured for $15,000.

R.E. Bott are the official insurance brokers to the ASF and can offer a range of policies to clubs at State Federation level or below that.

Clubs can pay the premiums in a lump sum or in instalments.

Cold war in Canberra heating up

Star Monaro striker Sebastian Giampaolo and his co-star, Walter Valeri, are the juicy meat in a bitter Canberra sandwich.

Last week the NSW Federation heard their appeals against their transfer fees and reduced them marginally: Giampaolo's from $28,000 to $24,000 and Valeri's from $24,000 to $20,000.

This means that if Canberra City still wants the pair, they will have to fork out $44,000 cash — and now.

"We have told Canberra City that they either pay up or we withdraw our permission for the two boys to train with them," a Monaro spokesman said this week.

"I can't see why we would show any special consideration to Canberra City which worked tirelessly to torpedo our application for the PSL."

To make it even stickier for Canberra City, the NSW Federation lodged an official complaint against them with the ASF.

"Canberra had the two boys sign PSL registration forms and contracts while they were properly registered with us," president Karl Rodny said.

"We could have thrown out the appeal against the transfer fee because of this blatant breach of rules, but didn't.

"Giampaolo and Valeri can re-appeal again against the fee but only to the NSW Federation."

In the process, Canberra City manager — and PSL chairman — Max Talbot also suffered a rebuff.

Last week he appeared with Giampaolo and Valeri at the NSW Federation's offices for the hearing but was refused admission.

Monaro officials claim that Giampaolo and Valeri are worth every penny of the very high transfer fee.

"We are offering Giampaolo $9,000 guaranteed for the season plus bonuses and then, eventually, 15% of his transfer fee if at the end of his contract he does change clubs.

"If he's worth all this money to us surely he is worth $24,000 in transfer fee.

"But we desperately want to keep them both.

"Monaro wants to do well again in 1980 and reapply for a PSL membership.

"We are mounting a long, well documented campaign and also need a top team.

"It's unreasonable to ask us to sell our best two players and give up hope for the PSL just because Canberra City can't find strikers anywhere else."

Adelaide

Last Friday's late Ampol Cup match saw Enfield Victoria scoring a great 3-2 win over Para Hills to lift themselves into the top place on the table. Scorers — Victoria: C. Key (2), M. Elliott; Para Hills: H. Bell (2). In the early match Cumberland United beat Elizabeth 3-0 and the loss for Elizabeth sent them tumbling to bottom position. Scorers — Cumberland: Mahony (2), Leane.

A big crowd is expected at Hindmarsh Stadium this Friday night when two of the biggest crowd pullers, Azzurri and Beograd will play in two different matches.

At 7.30pm it is Azzurri v Cumberland and at 9.00 pm Beograd v Polonia.

Games for Monday, February 4: 7.30pm Azzurri v Elizabeth; 9.00pm Polonia v Cumberland.

★ ★ ★

Adelaide City midfielder Brian Northcote 23, who resumed light training about a month ago, is now in full training with the rest of the squad, five nights a week. Brian underwent a successful ankle operation four months ago.

★ ★ ★

According to West Adelaide's secretary Jim Carapidis all differences between the club and former Greek internation Con Kambas have been settled and he is very happy with new coach Gerry Chaldi.

★ ★ ★

BLACKTOWN SHOCKED BUT UNDAUNTED

Sydney's wise, cynical soccer aficionados feel that Blacktown City face the greatest uphill battle in 1980 since Edmund Hillary and his sherpa had climbed Everest.

Their admission to the Phillips League came as a thundering surprise.

Some Blacktown officials now admit that they had originally applied merely to make their "presence felt" for the future but never really expected to be promoted.

"We thought we'd be ready for 1981 or 1982 but wanted to lay an early claim for inclusion," one said this week.

But now that the innocent bluff has been called, Blacktown (nee Toongabbie) are earnestly toiling to hold their own among the big boys.

Coach Mick Jones may be their greatest asset at this stage.

Since coming to Australia in 1969, he has performed extremely well, at times brilliantly yet, somehow, his abilities are still largely unrecognised.

He won a championship with Hakoah and promotion with Granville and Kuringai and once saved Yugal from relegation, having taken over the team mid-season, with eight points adrift.

But this time Jones may have to outperform himself.

Their major new signings are George Harris from St.George, Bill Amey from Newcastle and youthful striker Ian Hunter from Nepean, a club which appears to have fallen apart.

Two other Nepean youngsters, both State under-19 representatives, Mike Harris and Don Campbell as well as Tony Rasmussen, have also joined.

Most of the 1979 stalwarts will remain with the Demons: Harding, Fisher, Campbell, Izatt and the Chilean trio of Ortega, Hormazabal and Pena.

"All we want is one or two strong defenders, " Mick Jones said this week.

Jones has also imported Paul Wilkinson, 22, a striker from a Cheshire League club, Bootle.

And before you shrug it off do remember that it was the same Mick Jones who had found for Australian soccer the greatly admired Kenny Boden, then also with an English non-League club.

For their first 1980 PSL game, they hope to field the legendary Bobby Charlton,now around the 40 mark.

However, they will have to receive permission from the PSL and ASF for this, as guest players are now out.

Joining the small band of officials centred around club secretary and manager Peter Thorne is ex-Toongabbie livewire Dave Clark, promotions man for the city of Sydney and possibly the most valuable club PR in business.

With his help, Blacktown hope to mobilise the vast area stretching from Toongabbie to the Blue Mountains, building up a fiercely loyal support, a la Newcastle.

"If we can get the district behind the team, we will be OK; if we can't, we will sink. It's as simple as all that."

PSL TRIALS

Sydney's Philips League clubs will start a friendly round-robin to get into shape for the season.

This is the schedule of matches:

Sat., Feb.2 (at Barton Park):
7pm: St.George v Blacktown
8.45pm: Syd.City v Marconi

Sat., Feb.9 (at Barton Park):
7pm: Leichhardt v Blacktown
8.45pm: St.George v Syd.City

Sun.Feb.17 (at Barton Park):
5.30pm: St.Geo. v Leichhardt
The same day Marconi v Blacktown venue undecided.

Sun. Feb.24 (at Marconi Stad.)
3pm: Marconi v Leichhardt
(at Gabbie):
3pm: Blacktown v Syd. City

Sun. Mar.2 (at Marconi Stad.):
3pm: Marconi v St.George
(at Lambert Park):
3pm: Syd.City v Leichhardt.

S.A. SQUAD

State coach Edmund Kreft has recalled Adelaide City goalkeeper Peter Marshall and defender Bobby Russell for the match against the Czechs next Wednesday night. The full squad is: Marshall, B. Nyskohus, Jones, J. Nyskohus (Adelaide City), Crook, Bozanic, Dooley, Kosmina (West Adelaide), H. Kolecki, Stansczk (Polonia), Brown (Para Hills), Key (Victoria) Leane Welsh (Cumberland), Maricic (Campbelltown), Iannace, Boehnke (Azzurri). Kreft said that he would not make drastic changes from the team that lost 6-0 to Red Star recently. "We gave away three soft goals against Red Star and our defence line will have to be reorganised."

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I want top skills from all my players

— By Joe Vengios, coach of Czechoslovakia —

Preparing a national team for its tasks involves quite a bit of planning.

Many teams from Eastern Europe have their players in lengthy training camps but I know from experience that the players do not like to be away from homes and families for long periods.

So I have decided on just short get togethers before matches.

We meet on Sundays, and for a home game we work together on Mondays and Tuesdays.

In my opinion we have to choose players from the way they play for their clubs and of course this means watching everyone very closely.

For example, Frantisek Stambachr plays a very different role for his club Dukla Praha compared with his job in the national team, but he can adapt his play quite easily.

Marian Masny is now our key player. He had a very good game at Wembley and proved his class. After all his international experience he has developed into a really good player.

But strangely, he plays far better for the national team than he does for Slovan Bratislava. As the former manager of Slovan I know Masny very well of course.

Having been the manager of Slovan Bratislava for 10 years I understand the problems and how clubs feel about releasing their players.

But I also had a good grounding in my new job, being manager of our Under 23 team first and then as assistant to Vaclev Jezek for three years which was highlighted by our winning the European championship.

The side we have now is what I would call a half way team. About half of the present team played in the 1976 European championship. The other half of the team is new to international football this season.

Experience is vitally important for the players. That is why last season I tried to arrange for them to meet the best in Europe. We have now played West Germany, Italy and England at Wembley and the players can only benefit from their experience.

The group of players that we have now are all very good friends and very intelligent about the game.

But there is so much to learn if they are to do well at top level.

I want my team to play the very best sides in friendly games because it is only from meeting the best that players

Joe Vengios

gain the necessary experience and can develop.

In these key games they must show all their possibilities and learn from experiences.

The European Championship is more difficult for us than it was in 1976. Difficult and different.

In Yugoslavia in 1976 we had to play only two games, the semifinal and final.

Now this time there will be more games in the final stages in Italy and this gives us problems in the psychological field and also because our players do not generally have the physical condition to play three or four games at top level in a few days. But we shall work hard and try to get the players into better condition.

All over Europe there are good teams now. Holland are clearly very good. And Austria, Spain and France have all improved based on the evidence I saw in Argentina during the World Cup. England are improving too, though Sweden are not as strong now as they were two or three years ago.

Football has become a much more difficult game to play as we saw in Argentina. For example, in the 1974 World Cup Cruyff was very good but he was only a schemer. In Argentina, even the clever midfield players like Cruyff have developed further.

In 1978 the midfield players all had defensive duties too. They had to cover the entire midfield from one penalty area to the other.

This makes big demands on their physical condition, and of course they have to be good defensive players too, as well as good going forward.

The stars have to play a full role in both defence and attack.

Even the very top players must show more quality in individual skills. They must be able to switch from attack to defence and then to attack again. The really top players now are of a more universal type.

We knew in theory before 1978 that universal players had to develop. We all talked about it, but I think it was achieved in Argentina.

• *From World Soccer.*

Panenka, the dynamic Czech midfield ace.

MASNY, ONDRUS SHOCK

The soccer weekly "Tip," published in Bratislava, has announced the team of the 1979 season, based on votes by coaches.

This is their team: Hruska (Bohemians) - Barmos (Inter.) - Jurkemik (Inter.) - Vojecek (Ostrava) - Goegh (Slovan) - Kozak (Lokomotiva Kosice) - Stambachr (Dukla Pr.) - Panenka (Bohemians) - Vizek, Nehoda, Gajdusek (all three Dukla Prague).

The surprise omissions are the captain of the national team, Ondrus and star striker Masny.

REFEREES AND LINESMEN FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIAN TOUR:

NEWCASTLE: January 30, at International Sports Centre
NORTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES v CZECHOSLOVAKIA
Referee: P. RAMPLEY Fourth Official: J. Reeves.
Linesmen: W. Jones and A. Rodway.

SYDNEY: February 3, at Sydney Sports Ground.

AUSTRALIA v CZECHOSLOVAKIA
Referee: T.BOSKOVIC Fourth Official: T. Davies
Linesmen: G. Power and D. Rennie.

ADELAIDE: February 6, at Hindmarsh Stadium.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA v CZECHOSLOVAKIA
Referee: D. CAMPBELL Fourth Official: R. Kerr
Linesmen: J. Woodward and J. Rossis.

MELBOURNE: February 9, at Olympic Park.
AUSTRALIA v CZECHOSLOVAKIA
Referee: B. HARWOOD Fourth Official: S. Mellings.
Linesmen: J. Fearn and J. Brennan.

Czechoslovakia's recent results

1978	
East Germany v Czechos.	2-1
Sweden v Czechos.	1-3
Czechos. v West Germ.	3-4
Czechos. v Italy	3-0
England v Czechos.	1-0
1979	
Czechos. v Spain	1-0
Czechos. v France	2-0
Luxemburg v Czechos.	0-3
USSR v Czechoslovakia	3-0
Hungary v Czechos.	2-1
Czechos. v Ireland	4-1
Czechos. v Sweden	4-1
Czechos. v Luxemburg	4-0

Karel Kroupa

Our Czech mates

These are the details about the Czechoslovakian players now in Australia:

Zdanek HRUSKA (Bohemians Prague), born 25.7.54, goalkeeper, 8 caps.
Jaroslav NETOLICKA (Dukla Prague), born 1954, goalkeeper, 8 caps.
Jozef BARMOS(Inter Bratislava), born 23.8.54, defender, 20 caps
Anton ONDRUS (Banska Bystrica), born 27.3.50, central defender, 48 caps.
Rotislav VOJACEK (Banik Ostrava), born 23.3.49, defender, 17 caps.
Koloman GOGH (Slovan Bratislava) born 28.3.48, defender, 46 caps.
Ladislav JURKEMIK (Inter Bratislava) born 20.7.53, defender 24 caps.
Jan FIALA (Dukla Prague) born 19.5.56, defender, 9 caps.
Karol DOBIAS, defender or midfielder.
Jan KOZAK (Lokomotiva Kosice) born 17.4.53, midfielder, 26 caps.
Frantisek STRAMBACHR (Dukla Prague) born 13.2.53, midfielder, 11 caps.
Antonin PANENKA (Bohemians Prague) born 2.12.48, midfielder, 36 caps.
Jaroslav POLLAK (Sparta Prague) born 1947, midfielder, 51 caps.
Ladislav VIZEK (Dukla Prague) born 22.1.55, striker, 6 caps.
Zdenek NEHODA (Dukla Prague) born 9.5.52, striker,59 caps
Moroslav GAJDUSEK (Dukla Prague) born 20.9.51 striker, 40 caps.
Marian MASNY (Slovan Bratislava) born 13.8.50, 51 caps.
Karel KROUPA (Brno) born 15.5.50, striker, 20 caps.

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AUSTRALIA v CZ'SLOVAKIA 0-4

Euro champs in a canter

— By Peter Kunz —

Canberra's largest ever soccer crowd was treated to a display which emphasised the gap between a top-class European team and the Socceroos.

Phil O'Connor.

From the very start the Australians appeared nervous and Tansey and Prskalo, in an attempt to calm their mates, gave many backpasses to Woodhouse.

The Czechs soon began their cool wall-passing and triangular formations.

Only Tony Henderson of the Socceroos possessed enough confidence to make sporadic forays into the Czech midfield area.

After about 10 minutes the Czechs tried out their long-range shooting ability and this paid off when Jurkemik received from outside the box and hammered a low shot into the net in the 17th minute.

Minutes later O'Connor sent a tantalising cross into the goalmouth but the Australian strikers were slow to react.

Successive fouls on little Cumming enabled Tansey to float lobs into the Czech penalty area but most were easily intercepted by goalkeeper Netolicka.

In the 32nd minute O'Connor weaved past two defenders and unleashed a stunning drive which was smothered by the goalie.

Minutes later the Czech sweeper Ondrus burst into the goalmouth, only to trip over the ball.

One minute from halftime Vizek, the youngest Czech on the field, received a ball on the wing, rounded Prskalo and smashed the ball through the narrow gap between the post and the advancing Woodhouse.

When the second half started, Boyle replaced Coyne while in the Czech team Masny came in for Gajdusek.

The Australians must have received a severe pep-talk in the dressing room because, within two minutes of the restart, they managed to lurch forward, forcing three corners within two minutes.

A massive goal clearance by Woodhouse bounced in front of Netolicka and under pressure from Krncevic, the goalie pushed the ball over the crossbar.

The match was opening up and the crowd came to life as play fluctuated from end to end.

The Czechs had a goal disallowed when Nehoda was ruled offside but they kept on pressing.

Woodhouse was given ample opportunity to display his fine skills and made some great saves.

Stambachr switched from midfield to left wing and promptly created havoc with his crosses.

In the 67th minute John Nyskohus replaced Boyle who had failed to make any impression.

Then came the finest move by the Australians. Nyskohus flicked the ball to Perry on the wing, who lobbed the ball onto the chest of O'Connor but his shot flew over the bar.

The Australians became visibly dissipirited, seeing some of their efforts wasted; fatigue set in.

The Czechs, on the other hand, grew in strength.

Masny crossed the ball to the centre and there was Nehoda to volley home a perfect shot from close range.

With just one minute remaining the ever busy and agile Kozak found a gap with his shot among the maze of legs.

The best of Czechoslovakia were Vizek, Jurkemik, Ondrus and Barmos while Henderson, Rooney and O'Connor stood out for the Socceroos.

John Coyne

AUSTRALIA: Woodhouse, Perry, Henderson, Prskalo, Tansey, Rooney, Coyne, (Boyle 46m., J. Nyskohus 70m), Cumming (Sharne 36m), Cole, O'Connor, Krncevic. **Coach:** R. Gutendorf.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Netoilcka, Barmos, Ondrus, Jurkemik, Goegh, Kozak, Stambachr, Panenka, Vizek, Nehoda, Gajdusek (Masny 45m). **Coach:** J. Venglos.

Tony Henderson.

Referee: C. Bambridge; **Crowd:** 15,283.

Goals: 0-1 Jurkemik (17m), 0-2 Vizek (44m), 0-3 Nehoda (83m), 0-4 Kozak (89m).

Eddie Krncevic

OR SO THEY SAY...

Views before the match:

"To expect the half fit Socceroos, who have had a week of preparation, to beat the reigning European champions is asking the impossible and is patently absurd." (Sun Herald, Jan.27)

□ □ □

"Gutendorf feels that the only way to stop the Czechs getting into full rhythm is to overcrowd his midfield." (Sunday Telegraph, Jan.27).

□ □ □

"I will attack as I did in China (says Gutendorf); if we lose, we lose but we must attack." (Soccer Action, Jan. 23.)

□ □ □

"Czechs are set to take Canberra by storm." (Soccer World, Jan.24.)

□ □ □

Comments after the match:

"Czechoslovakia...didn't have to live up to its great reputation to make mincemeat of the Socceroos in Canberra....The Czechs had almost entire freedom of the park in the first half and were able to find each other with accurate passing..." (Daily Telegraph, Jan 28.)

□ □ □

"...the Czechs did not win as easily as the score suggests...playing superb approach football, the Australians matched the Czechs for an hour..." (The Australian, Jan 28.)

□ □ □

"The super-fit Czechs were always going to win against the half-fit Socceroos...Australia can be thankful that the Czechs were not playing at their best, otherwise the scoreline would have been much greater." (Herald, Jan. 28).

□ □ □

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Part one

— By Andrew Dettre —

Who is prepared to swear that the great soccer experiment in the USA will fail?

Who of the many self-anointed apostles of the game, especially in England, can be certain that, to paraphrase the game's motto in North America, soccer will be a kick in the ass, not in the grass?

Well, I am not game enough to dismiss them with the same nonchalance as Fleet Street journalists do.

In November and December, I spent five weeks in the USA and managed to look behind the scenes not just in soccer but other professional sports such as football, ice hockey and basketball.

And even a hardened cynic like me had to be impressed.

The fact is, Americans, unchallenged champions of the consumer society, are used to thinking big and taking chances.

This, as a starter, already separates them from most others.

Once they delve into sport, they realise that without massive investment in money and personnel, failure is certain.

Of course, the current showpiece of soccer there is the North American Soccer League (NASL), with Cosmos of New York as their flagship.

Mel Karwoski, in charge of NASL Research and Statistics, told me that in 1978 more than 5,300,000 people watched NASL matches — a whopping 47% jump on 1977.

NASL officials concede that so far none of their clubs — or franchises — are profitable.

But the attraction for investment remains. Says Karwoski:

"Owners can get in on the ground floor and build up a franchise to a much higher value covering their operating losses.

"Last winter the Memphis club was sold and so were Portland and Seattle. All fetched about $2,000,000.

"A lot of the individuals who own clubs are prominent people.

"Philadelphia Furies is owned by a bunch of people in the entertainment field, Memphis by a group of lawyers, Dallas Tornadoes by oil magnate Lamar Hunt who also owns the Kansas City football franchse and started world championship tennis."

Founded on a wave of enthusiasm following the tremendous public reaction to the televised 1966 World Cup finals, NASL came into being in 1967.

Two new Leagues were set up (most American pro sports prefer a two-layer system): the United Soccer Association, which imported entire teams to make up its 12 franchise cities and the NASL which recruited foreign and local players for their own 12 teams.

Early 1968, realising the smallness of the soccer market, the two organisations merged into the NASL, which then had 17 teams.

But by the end of 1968 the entire edifice was on the brink of collapse.

"Most owners hoped that soccer would be an instant success and could compete with baseball, football and basketball," Karwoski says.

"They were wrong: the clubs wanted to grasp too much too quickly and despite pouring huge sums into the game, clubs were fast going broke; only five remained, the others vanished."

The rebuild was slow and much more cautious. Even in 1972 the NASL had only 8 clubs and it wasn't until 1974 that the league expanded to the West Coast (California.)

Pele with friend.

Franchises — property rights to clubs — kept changing hands, often for a few thousand dollars: Kansas dropped out and were replaced by Montreal; the New York Cosmos were founded.

But, as everybody in New York will readily admit, the big break-through came with the signing of Pele in 1975.

"Pele gave us credibility," admits Karwoski. "He might have been past his prime but somehow it didn't make any difference.

"The fact that he came to the USA to play was a sort of signal for other top players that soccer here is respectable.

"Before Pele, people used to regard it as a game for the old boys from Britain who came over here during the summer to make a few bucks.

"After Pele all this changed."

This, of course, needed a lot of money and in the past 10 years or so, soccer has managed to attract wealthy backers.

The majority of today's 24 NASL franchises are privately held: one or more rich businessmen run the show and finance it.

There are some exceptions: Cosmos is owned by Warner Communications, the New England Teamen by Lipton Tea, Portland Timbers by Louisiana Pacific (timber products), Toronto Blizzard by Global TV and Washington Diplomats by Gulf and Western.

To give you an idea of their scope: Warner's estimated value is $1.600 million, Lipton's $6,000 million and Gulf and Western's some $10,000 million.

(Yes, ten thousand million or ten billion dollars.)

Gulf & Western, among other things, owns oil fields, refineries and tankers, Paramount Pictures and the mighty new Madison Square Gardens in New York built atop the fantastic new Pennsylvania Station....

Why do these individuals and corporations put money in soccer in America?

There are three main reasons:

1. Franchises can be used as tax shelters; that is, losses can be deducted from taxable incomes.

2. Wealthy but almost totally unknown individuals can become talked about and admired local celebrities overnight, enjoying a fairly inexpensive but massive ego-trip.

3. No attractive franchises are readily available in other pro sports for people with either of the first two motives.

NASL officials admit that many — probably most — franchise holders know very little of soccer.

But all feel that soccer has a definite future in an increasingly leisure-oriented American society.

If their clubs lose money, they deduct it from their personal tax; meanwhile the value of the franchises — despite these constant losses — keep growing.

Today you couldn't buy an NASL franchise for less than $2 million.

So it's all business, pure and simple. Are the Americans embarrassed about it?

"Not at all," says Cosmos vice-president Dominick Flora, in his penthouse office in Rockefeller Plaza.

"So is ice hockey, basketball and football. That's why we don't have club committees and such things, only owners.

"We are in the mass entertainment business (movies, TV, telecommunications, etc.) and it seemed logical that Warner go into sport.

"We have the know-how in marketing and sales which most others lack. That is the real secret of the Cosmos success.

"We sell soccer the same way we sell Bug's Bunny: top quality product, properly dressed up and sold to the public.

"Lipton and Gulf & Western are much bigger corporations than we are — yet they haven't made a great success of their soccer, because they lack the right approach. But it will come."

Karwoski, a few blocks away in the NASL offices on the Avenue of the Americas, agrees.

"Cosmos is a special case. They couldn't pick themselves up and move to Portland or Tulsa and become the same success there.

"The heavy international atmosphere of New York is essential for Cosmos.

"In New York all you have to do is put a group of stars together, build up an organisation behind it and sell it."

Sell it — to whom?

There appears to be a sharp contradiction on this touchy point.

Flora, the urbane Cosmos executive — appointed Vice President after the recent Asian-Australian tour — claims that 60% of the soccer crowds are American born.

Others in the NASL and the sister organisation American Soccer League say that this figure is grossly exaggerated; some 70% of the Cosmos crowd is made up of migrants.

But does it really matter? The fact is that migrants and Americans are both prepared to pay their $5 or $10 to watch the local team which doesn't represent any one specific ethnic group.

The club names are positively colorful: Chicago Sting, Houston Hurricane, San Jose Earthquakes, Tulsa Toughnecks, Vancouver Whitecaps, and so on.

Compare this with the "imaginative" Australian Adelaide City, Brisbane City, Sydney City, Canberra City, Blacktown City monotony.....

"All clubs select their own names, there is no direction from the NASL" Karwoski says.

"Sure we give guidance and ideas but no orders. If Vancouver wanted to call itself City or United, that'd be OK with us.

"But, you see, they don't. The American tradition in other sports has been followed in soccer too.

"The San Francisco Giants, Los Angeles Dodgers, New York Jets, Toronto Mapleleaf, Dallas Cowboys and other similar club names in football, icehockey or baseball are colorful, even exciting.

"So it's natural that soccer franchises followed the tradition and got away from the more British "City" and "United" pattern.

"The question is always: what can you do with a name? How can you sell it? How can you relate it to the area where the club operates?

"Whatever name you select will be the most visible face of the club. Who wants a dull image?

"Team names and logos identify with the clubs and players.

"California Surf — isn't that logical. Tulsa Roughnecks is perfect for an oil town. Or take Florida. Not many peope are natives but go and live there from other parts of the USA.

"They are like vagabonds — so Rowdies certainly fits the image better than Tampa Bay United...."

The NASL is run like a big club: all 24 franchises (or clubs) have direct representation on the board through presidents (owners).

Credential for new franchises comes before this board and a three quarter majority is needed to approve a transfer.

In 1977 six new franchises were issued for a undisclosed sum — believed to be more than $500,000 each. This sum stayed in the coffers of the NASL to cover operational and marketing costs.

All 24 NASL clubs also pay an annual membership fee, which is kept confidential. It is thought to be between $40,000 and $60,000 a year.

Then they have to post a 'performance bond' with the NASL, which is paid into a bank account and held by the League in case of default. This bond is $150,000 per club.

But the NASL operational costs are considerable. They have a full time staff of some 50 (25 in administration and 25 in marketing), occupying two entire floors in a Manhattan skyscraper.

Taking it as a very rough annual average at $15,000, the wages bill alone would amount to $750,000 not to mention office costs, rent and other expenses, pushing the total well over $1,000,000.

Meanwhile, the Philips League in Sydney has a manager and a secretary as its full complement....

The NASL is a non-profit organisation — but its Marketing Division is registered as a corporation, aimed at a profit.

Each club buys a share of the stock and the business is run on a strict profit and loss basis, marketing every possible soccer item from books to balls, souvenirs, shirts, posters, stickers to TV advertising rights.

This market is not as big as yet as those of other sports — *but the NASL is certain that their efforts will pay off.*

Gerd Muller, with Fort Lauderdale in Florida, one of the many big-name captures in the North American Soccer League.

• *Continued next week..*

The Cosmos home ground, New Jersey's Giants Stadium.

WORLD NEWS

Magyars rise in Argentina

Is Hungary's long faded star rising again?

Ferencvaros, one of their leading clubs — reinforced by four lesser known players — is now touring Latin America as a "League XI."

Their first five results have far exceeded all modest Hungarian expectations.

First they played the Rumanian national team in Bogota, for a 2-2 draw, then drew 1-1 with Colombia.

Andras Torocsik, the brilliant Hungarian striker, now fully recovered from his broken thigh injury.

After that they moved to the tougher climate of Argentina — and it was here that they really excelled.

After two further draws against top clubs Independiente and Boca Juniors (both 1-1), they beat Racing 3-2, all three matches having been played in Mar del Plata.

No doubt these results will erase some of the bad memories of the Hungarians of this lovely Atlantic seaside resort: it was in Mar del Plata that they had suffered humiliating defeats against Italy and France in the 1978 World Cup.

Now the League XI will meet the toughest Argentinian team of them all, River Plate, then move on to Peru and Mexico, before returning home on February 16.

Ex-manager of Hungary, Lajos Baroti.

Krankl forced to leave Barcelona

Even the greatest of stars can have a sudden eclipse in the tough, highly commercialised Spanish soccer.

Last week CF Barcelona's brilliant Austrian striker, Hans Krankl, packed his bags and returned to Vienna, with $100,000 of his unexpired contract money in his suitcase.

A few days before, his replacement had already arrived: the tiny Brazilian Carlos Roberto de Oliveira — known as Roberto.

When Krankl joined "Barca" in 1978, he was feted and celebrated; he paid back his enormous transfer fee and salary by becoming Europe's top scorer in 1979.

Then — problems. Krankl's main differences started with his coach, Rife who wanted the Austrian to "do more work" apart from scoring goals.

Gradually Krankl's relations with the other players also deteriorated; he was accused of waiting to be fed with the perfect balls.

Said the Argentinian Zubiria: "Krankl isn't pulling his weight, that's why the team is struggling. I don't like anybody to muck around with my bonuses."

So Krankl had to go, under pressure from coach and fellow-players.

Cosmos of New York expressed interest but backed out when they heard of the transfer fee — $1 million.

So the Viennese Rapid stepped in and negotiated a "secret" sum enabling Krankl to return home.

Roberto, 25, was rated as the best central striker in Brazil before the last World Cup — a worthy successor to Tostao.

He did play in the Mundial of '78 but failed to impress, because of a knee injury.

After the Mundial he had a cartilage removed at a New York clinic and returned to his best form with his club, Vasco de Gama.

Hans Krankl

EURO-CUPS

These are the quarterfinal pairings in the various Euro-Cups:

CHAMPIONS' CUP:

Hamburg v Hajduk Split
Nottingham v Dynamo Berlin
Strasbourg v Ajax
Celtic v Real Madrid

CUPWINNERS' CUP:

Arsenal v IFK Goteborg
Barcelona v Valencia
Dynamo Moscow v Nantes
Rijeka v Juventus

UEFA CUP:

St.Etienne v Monchengladbach
Kaisersl. v Bayern Munchen
Stuttgart v Lokom.Sofia
Eintr.Frankfurt v Brno

Dates: March 5 and 19.

Dates of European ch'ships

This is the full draw of the 1980 European Championship finals held in Italy in June:

Group I: Czechoslovakia, West Germany, Greece, Holland.
Group II: Spain, Italy Belgium, England.

Program:

June 11: Czechoslovakia v West Germany (Rome); Greece v Holland (Naples.
June 12: Spain v Italy (Milan); Belgium v England (Turin).
June 14: Czechoslovakia v Greece (Rome); West Germany v Holland (Naples).
June 15: Spain v Belgium (Milan); Italy v England (Turin).
June 17: Czechoslovakia v Holland (Milan); West Germany v Greece (Turin).
June 18: Spain v England (Naples); Italy v Belgium (Rome).

Group winners meet in the final in Rome on June 22, runners-up for third place in Naples on June 21.

OVERSEAS BRIEFS

• Stuttgart's young German international Hansi Mueller has signed a tentative contract with Inter Milan while AC Milan hope to secure Bayern's striker Karl-Heinz Rummenigge — if the ban on foreign players is lifted at the end of January.

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•The Rumanian national team, with 19 players, is presently touring South America.

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• Just Fortaine, former famous French star and more recently TV commentator, has become the manager of the Moroccon national team.

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• The Polish FA has made some changes: in the 1980-81 championship the first division will be cut from 16 to 14 teams.

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• Cosmos have sacked their coach, Ray Klivecka and Julio Mazzei, already the technical director, has taken over. His new assistant is Terry Garbett, who played for Cosmos in the last two seasons but has decided to retire.

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• Garrincha, 41, former Brazilian wing wizard, is in hospital with serious liver complaints, following years of alcoholism.

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• Brazil will definitely take part in the semi-centenary tournament in Montevideo in December but England have withdrawn and their place will be taken by Holland. Others to play will be Italy, Argentina, Uruguay and West Germany — all ex-world champions.

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• Geoff Hurst, manager of Chelsea, is confident that next season they will have Kevin Keegan in their team.

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• The Italian Pescara's coach, Giagnoni, has been banned for six months from the bench for criticising a referee.

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• On medical advice, Sepp Maier, the brilliant Bayern and West German international goalie, will retire from the game. The 35-year-old Sepp suffered serious injuries in a car accident last July. He played 95 times for West Germany.

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• Liverpool have not lost a match at their home ground, Anfield, since January 21, 1978.

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• Bayern Munchen are keen to re-sign Franz Beckenbauer when his Cosmos contract runs out in September.

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• Hamburg's coach Branko Zebec has renewed his contract until June 1981.

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• Bristol Rovers have offered the manager's post to Tony Book, now only nominally in charge of Manchester City and overshadowed by Malcolm Allison.

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• Since winning the World Cup in 1974, West Germany have played 50 matches — losing only five (England, France, Brazil, Sweden and Austria).

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• The rankings continue....The Swiss "Zuricher Sport" has selected these as the top teams of Europe in 1979: West Germany, Austria and Yugoslavia.

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• Nottingham's Kenny Burns has received his sixth caution of the season and will now have to serve a suspension.

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• Lou Macari, the Manchester ace about Liverpool: "Every time we play them I feel there are 14 of them on the pitch...."

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• Aston Villa have sent an official to Rio to sign Brazilian international striker Gil.

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• The autograms of West German star Rummenigge fetch $5 on the market.

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• Arsenal and Tottenham are after Coventry striker Ian Wallace, whose transfer tag is $1,500,000.

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• Maccabi Tel Aviv have offered $100,000 to Manchester City for their reserve striker Darry Silkman.

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• The Hungarian sports daily "Nepsport" in a recent issue publishes a long editorial about the spreading boycott threat against the Moscow Olympics, defending the Olympic spirit and the efforts of the "peace-loving Russian" organisers. The column-length editorial does not mention once the word Afghanistan.....

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• Liam Brady will stay with Arsenal — if the club allows him to enter into a promotional deal with the Ford Motor Co. under the name "Liam Brady Ltd."

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• Dino Zoff, the veteran Italian goalkeeper, has established a new record: he has been in the Juventus team without interruption in 229 matches — since May 23, 1972. The previous record holder was the equally famous fullback Foni.

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• Tickets for the European Championship finals in Italy will go on sale early February, in three categories: $4, $15 and $30.

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• Contrary to earlier reports, the Spanish World Cup Organising Committee has not yet signed any contract for the televising of the '82 finals.

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• The foreign invasion of misty Albion continues: Wolverhampton have signed from the Spanish Huelva the Uruguyan fullback Rafael Villazan.

□ □ □

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